ASPECT AND TENSE IN JAPANESE DIALECTS

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INTRODUCTION

- THERE ARE MANY RESEARCHES ABOUT ASPECT AND TENSE IN STANDARD JAPANESE (SJ) IN JAPANESE DIALECTS

- WE CAN FIND DIFFERENCES ABOUT FORMS BETWEEN DIALECTS

     → FIG.1, FIG.2
PURPOSE FOR THIS PRESENTATION

– TO REEXAMINE HOW TO RECOGNIZE ASPECT AND TENSE IN JAPANESE (DIALECTS)

– TO REPORT THE DIALECTS HAS BEEN EXPLAINED FROM THE MEANING OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THEIR FORMS
ASPECT AND TENSE SYSTEMS IN JAPANESE DIALECTS

- The aspect and tense systems are almost confirmed in each dialects.
- Kudo (2014) shows the systems and its features of some typical dialects.
- Of SJ, it has the system that *su-ru* conflicts with *si-te i-ru* as perfective and durative in non-past.
STANDARD JAPANESE (SJ)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Perfective</th>
<th>Durative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>non-past</td>
<td></td>
<td>*su-<em>ru</em></td>
<td>*si-*te *i-<em>ru</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>past</td>
<td></td>
<td>*si-*ta</td>
<td>*si-*te *i-<em>ta</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **DURATIVE INCLUDES PROGRESSIVE AND RESULTATIVE**

*INU=GA*  
*ARUI-*TE I-*RU.*  
(PROGRESSIVE)

DOG=NOM  
WALK-GER BE-NPST  
‘A DOG IS WALKING.’

*DOA=GA*  
*AI-*TE I-*RU.*  
RESULTATIVE

DOOR=NOM  
OPEN-GER BE-NPST  
‘THE DOOR HAS OPENED.’
### TOHOKU DIALECTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Perfective</th>
<th>Durative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>future</td>
<td></td>
<td>age-ru</td>
<td>age-de-ru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>present</td>
<td></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>age-de-da</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>past</td>
<td></td>
<td>age-da</td>
<td>age-de-dat-ta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(NAN’YO DIALECT FROM KUDO[2014:514])

- DURATIVE FORM IN PRESENT TENSE IS DIFFERENT FROM SJ, BUT ITS SYSTEM IS SIMILAR TO SJ
BINARY CONFLICTION

[SJ] SU–RU / SI–TE I–RU
[TOHOKU DIALECTS]

SU–RU / SI–TE–DA

– SJ AND TOHOKU DIALECTS ARE CONFRONT IN TWO FORMS IN ASPECTUAL MEANINGS (PERFECTIVE AND DURATIVE)
### DIALECTS IN WESTERN JAPANESE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Perfective</th>
<th>Imperfective (Progressive)</th>
<th>Perfect (Resultative)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>non–past</td>
<td>su–ru</td>
<td>si–jor–u</td>
<td>si–tor–u</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>past</td>
<td>si–ta</td>
<td>si–jot–ta</td>
<td>si–tot–ta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(UWAJIMA DIALECT FROM KUDO[1995])

THREE-FORMS CONFLICTION

- THEY HAVE A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THREE FORMS

- THE DIFFERENCE OF MEANING BETWEEN $SI$-$JOR$-$U$ AND $SI$-$TOR$-$U$ HAVE BEEN ARGUED FROM MEIJI ERA

- DIALECTS IN WESTERN JAPANESE HAVE THE SYSTEM THAT $SU$-$RU$ CONFLICTS WITH $SI$-$JOR$-$U$ AND $SI$-$TOR$-$U$ AS PERFECTIVE, IMPERFECTIVE (PROGRESSIVE) AND PERFECT (RESULTATIVE)
ASPECT AND TENSE IN JAPANESE

- The studies about aspect and tense in Japanese has been promoted by the construction for the system of them

- Does the approach adapt to clarify the essence of aspect and tense in Japanese?

- Do their forms conflict with each other in morphologically?
WORD FORMATION

- Most of the temporal expressions in Japanese includes the existential verb;

  $SI\text{-}TA \ (SI\text{-}TE \ AR\text{-}I > SI\text{-}TAR\text{-}I > SI\text{-}TA),$

  $SI\text{-}TE \ I\text{-}RU \ (-TE \ FORM \ AND \ I\text{-}RU),$

  $SI\text{-}JOR\text{-}U \ (CONTINUATIVE \ FORM \ AND \ O\text{-}RU) \ ...$

- It means that the existential verb is concerned with the meanings of the Japanese temporal expressions
THE STATE OF THE VERB EXISTENT


- HOWEVER, IN JAPANESE, THE FORMS EXPRESSING ASPECT AND TENSE MEANING ARE GRAMMATICALIZED BY THE EXISTENTIAL VERB

- HE SUGGESTS THE NEW POINT OF VIEW HOW THE STATE OF THE VERB EXISTENT
THE USAGE OF –TOR(U)

A) NEKO=GA ɕOOɕI=O JABURI–JOR–U. OPPARAI–SAI.
CAT=NOM SHOJI=ACC BREAK.INF–BE.PROG SHOO.INF–IMP
‘THE CAT IS BREAKING THE SHOJI. SHOO THE CAT.’

B) NEKO=GA ɕOOɕI=O JABUT–TOR–U.
CAT=NOM SHOJI=ACC BREAK–GER BE.RES
HARIKAE–NA IKE–N.
REPAPER.IRR–COND ALRIGHT.IRR–NEG
‘THE CAT HAS BROKEN THE SHOJI. I HAVE TO REPAPER IT.’ (KUDO[1995:262])
C) [SPEAKER LOOKS AT FOOTPRINTS AT THE ENTRANCE OR DIRT ON SHOES]

KODOMO=GA  HATAKE=NO  NAKA

CHILD–NOM  FIELD=GEN  INSIDE=ACC

ARUI–TOR–U.

WALK–GER.BE. PERFECT

‘A CHILD MUST HAVE WALKED INSIDE THE FIELD.’  (KUDO[2014:380])

– ALSO –TOR(U) SHOWS THE MEANING OF EXPERIENTIAL PERFECT
- \textit{TOR(U)} expresses \underline{RESULTATIVE}, \underline{PERFECT} and \underline{EXPERIENTIAL PERFECT} in Western Japanese dialect

- The states of the verb indicating in B) and C) have finished and have been existing in directly or indirectly

- Both of them are common that the situations are after the state has finished
D) **TOOTOO**  \( \text{NAI–TOT–TA=ZE.} \)

AT LAST  \( \text{CRY–GER.BE.PST. PROG=SFP} \)

‘AT LAST, HE HAD STARTED CRYING AND BEEN CRYING.’

(KUDO[1995:294])

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**TOR(U)** CAN REPRESENT THE STATE AFTER STARTING

IT HAS NOT FINISHED THE STATE OF THE VERB
VERB CLASSIFICATION

- B) Jabur–u (break) is classified in accomplishment verb
- D) Nak–u (cry) is classified in activity verb

With using –tor(u), the forms expresses the situation after it started or finished
- HOW ABOUT ACHIEVEMENT VERB?
   ARRIVE, FALL ASLEEP, DIE …

- WITH USING -\textit{TOR(U)}, THE FORMS EXPRESS THE SITUATION AFTER IT FINISHED
THE MEANING OF –TOR(U)


– SI–TOR–U IS FORMED FROM ‘–TE FORM AND O–RU.’

–JOR(U) AND –TOR(U)

– DIFFERENT WORD FORMATION

–JOR(U) : CONTINUATIVE FORM AND O–RU

–TOR(U) : –TE FORM AND O–RU

– –JOR(U) ALSO INCLUDES THE EXISTENTIAL VERB, SO IT SHOULD BE ANALYZED BY THE THOUGHT HOW THE STATE OF THE VERB EXISTENT
CONCLUSION

- SUCH SPECIFIC EXAMPLES AS –\textit{TOR(U)} IN WESTERN JAPANESE DIALECT WILL INDICATE THAT THE IDEA OF THE STATE OF THE VERB EXISTENT INFLUENCES OTHER DIALECTS OR SJ.

- FOR ANALYZING THE ESSENCE OF ASPECT AND TENSE IN JAPANESE, THERE IS NECESSITY TO RECOGNIZE THE MEANINGS OF THE ELEMENTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION IN LATER STUDIES.
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